

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Final Office Action dated January 7, 2004. Claims 1-26, and 28-30 are pending in the application. After entry of the amendment claims 2-5, 8-18, 22-26, and 28-30 will be pending. Claims 1,6,7, and 19-21 have been canceled. Claims 2-5, 8, 12, 14, 22, and 24 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested in view of the remarks made below.

1. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 25, 26, and 28-30 are allowable.

The Examiner objected to claims 8-11 as being dependent upon a rejected based claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicant has canceled claims 1, 6, and 7 and incorporated the subject material into newly independent claim 8. Applicant has further amended claims 2-5, 12, and 14 to depend upon newly independent claim 8. Applicant believes that this overcomes the objection, and respectfully submits that claims 2-5, and 8-18 are now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner objected to claims 22-24 as being dependent upon a rejected based claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicant has canceled claims 19-21 and incorporated the subject material into newly independent claim 22. Applicant has further amended claim 24 to depend upon newly independent claim 22. Applicant believes that this overcomes the objection, and respectfully submits that claims 22-24 are now in condition for allowance.


Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims should be in condition for allowance.

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2. Conclusion

Applicant has made an earnest effort to place this application in condition for allowance. If the Examiner feels that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of this patent application, he is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at 215-599-0600.

Respectfully submitted,



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